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PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 87th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 29 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. SHIHABI (Saudi Arabia)

- Tribute to the memory of Mohamed Boudiaf, President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

- Tribute to the memory of Francis Bugotu, Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations

- Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (Article 19 of the Charter) [114] (continued)

- Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: report of the General Committee [8] (continued)

  (a) Request for the reopening of agenda item 116 submitted by the United States of America

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This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the Official Records of the General Assembly.

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- (b) Note by the Secretary-General requesting reopening of the consideration of agenda item 120

- Programme of work

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MOHAMED BOUDIAF, PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF FRANCIS BUGOTU, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOLOMON ISLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): It is my sad duty, this morning, to express condolences on the tragic death of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

Before the tragedy that took his life, Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf was one of the most eminent personalities of the Algerian National Movement and a great son of Algeria, of the Arab nation and of the African continent. He played a historic role in the long struggle for Algerian independence and was a dedicated patriot, working all his life for the highest interests of his country and his people. At the beginning of this year, out of his untiring dedication to his country, Mr. Boudiaf responded to the call of national duty to serve his country as President of the Supreme State Council, for which he ultimately sacrificed his life.

President Boudiaf's tragic death is a great loss for Algeria and for all of us here, who appreciate Algeria's role in the history of the Arab nation, the African continent, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations.

On behalf of the General Assembly, I request the representative of Algeria to convey our heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of Algeria and to the bereaved family.

It is also my sad duty to recall to the Assembly the passing away of His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu, Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations.

(The President)

Ambassador Bugotu had a distinguished and constructive career as a respected civil servant and diplomat. At the time of his death, on 9 July 1992, Ambassador Bugotu was also serving as Ambassador to the United States and as High Commissioner to Canada. He will be remembered for the devotion with which he served his country and the cause of the United Nations.

On behalf of all his friends and colleagues assembled here, I should like to express to his family and to the Government and people of Solomon Islands our profound and sincere condolences.

I now call on the Secretary-General.

The SECRETARY-GENERAL (interpretation from Arabic): While individuals perish, peoples live on. A human being passes from the scene, but principles endure. In that spirit, the noble ideals and principles for which the late leader Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf devoted his life have not vanished with him. To the contrary, they have grown stronger, not only among the Algerian people but also in the hearts of people the world over who cherish stability, security and peace.

(spoke in French)

When the news of the assassination of Mohamed Boudiaf traveled around the world, I happened to be in Dakar on the occasion of the Summit Conference of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). Like everyone else, I was taken aback and alarmed, thinking first of the singular destiny of this righteous man whom life had repeatedly propelled into wholly unique circumstances. My thoughts then turned to Algeria, whose struggle for independence I lived as if my own - that Arab country racked with concerns about its destiny, which had once again paused, uncertain. I condemned the appalling attack and conveyed to the family of Mohamed Boudiaf my sincere and heartfelt condolences.

(The Secretary-General)

Amidst the African Heads of State or Government gathered at Dakar, I was readily able to gauge how action in the public arena succeeded in but a few months - barely six in the case of Mohamed Boudiaf - in transforming a man hitherto unknown to the masses into a powerful, vivid and evocative figure. The image of honesty and integrity, and of fidelity to principles that Mohamed Boudiaf was beginning to make known far beyond his country's borders turned in a few hours into a symbol that even some of those who had opposed or perhaps misunderstood him shared in their hearts.

That symbol of probity and of devotion to the common good that Mohamed Boudiaf will forever represent in his country's memory, is daily growing stronger, clearer and more highly respected. It is the most stinging response individuals can make to violence and fanaticism; it is the most trenchant reply to his murderers.

(spoke in English)

I want now to pay a tribute to the memory of Francis Bugotu, Ambassador of Solomon Islands to the United Nations.

I was profoundly saddened to learn of the passing of Ambassador Francis Bugotu on 9 July. In his two years at the United Nations, Ambassador Bugotu displayed the same commitment to promoting international understanding he had shown throughout his distinguished career in Solomon Islands and in his service abroad.

I wish to join with others in paying a tribute to his memory. May I convey my profound condolences to the Government of Solomon Islands and to Mr. Bugotu's family.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I invite representatives to stand and observe a minute of silence in tribute to the memory of the late President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, and of the late Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu.

The members of the General Assembly observed a minute of silence.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Madagascar, Mr. Noel Rakotondramboa, who will speak on behalf of the African States.

Mr. RAKOTONDRAMBOA (Madagascar) (interpretation from French): It is my honour to speak on behalf of the Group of African States.

We were dismayed to learn of the violent death on 29 June of His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, President of the Supreme State Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria. In him, Africa lost another of its valiant sons; we saw in him both a historic leader of the Algerian revolution and, first and foremost, a courageous statesman firmly determined to restore political, economic and social stability in his country. He shouldered his responsibilities at a time that was crucial for the destiny of his country, fully aware of the dangers and challenges they entailed, and despite his age.

On behalf of the Group of African States, I convey our heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the Supreme State Council, to the Government and people of Algeria, and to the family of the deceased.

It is also with deep sadness that we learned of the death on 9 July of His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative of Solomon Islands to the United Nations. Though his tenure among us was brief, we have the best of memories

(Mr. Rakotondramboa, Madagascar)

of him. During his brilliant career in the service of his country and his people, he successfully held a number of major posts.

I wish on behalf of the Group of African States to convey our sincere condolences to the Government and people of Solomon Islands, as well as to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call next on the representative of Papua New Guinea, Ambassador Renagi Renagi Lohia, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Asian States.

Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea): Great leaders are born to the people, to the community and to the world, all in the good plans of our gods, who placed us on Earth. The plan is for us to come and to go in a way that is good, both on Earth and in heaven. But the death of the late President Mohamed Boudiaf was not one of those forms of passing acceptable to living dear ones and to colleagues. Therefore, the world and this Assembly must condemn all such cruel acts against great leaders and great people - and even against ordinary people.

(Mr. Lohia, Papua New Guinea)

The world community must stand tall holding high the principles of good living and of respect for life and good deeds. Leaders are given to people to provide leadership for their good and for the good of the people of the world. If there is to be peace and security in the world, it must start from individuals and groups. Therefore, we, as individuals, peoples from the grass roots to the highest authorities in all our nations, must secure the authority of law and justice for all.

Therefore, it was with great sadness that the Asian Group learned of the passing of an important and dedicated leader of Algeria. On their behalf, it is my honoured duty to request our colleague the Permanent Representative of Algeria and his delegation to convey to their Government and people our heartfelt condolences and to let them know that we share with them and all their friends their burden of sorrow.

By the same token, we grieve the loss of Ambassador Francis Bugotu, a very dear friend and colleague, a man who served his people both from the village to the Government of Solomon Islands, and then to the South Pacific region, where he became the Secretary-General of the South Pacific Commission. Having served for many years in the Pacific, Ambassador Bugotu was then sent to the United Nations to serve not only his people in the region and his country but the world community as a whole.

God has plans for everyone. He knew that Francis had served his people, his family and the world community, and that times like these come to all of us. Whilst he has passed away, we know that his spirit is with us.

It is a traditional belief in many of our communities, in Asia, Africa, Latin America and everywhere, that all flesh born to the world perishes, but that the spirit lives on. It is from this belief that we gain strength and a

(Mr. Lohia, Papua New Guinea)

sense of togetherness, brotherhood and sisterhood.

We pay a tribute to our dear friend and colleague, and a leader in his own right, and request that the Chargé d'affaires of the Mission of Solomon Islands convey to the Government and people of Solomon Islands and to the bereaved familiy of Francis Bugotu the condolences of the States members of the Asian Group to the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Ukraine, Mr. Viktor Kryzhanivskiy, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. KRYZHANIVSKIY (Ukraine): In my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States, I should like to pay a tribute to the late President Mohamed Boudiaf. An outstanding politician, he contributed greatly to obtaining his country's independence. Despite being in exile for almost 30 years, President Boudiaf was always with his people. He never stopped his efforts to build his country into a prosperous and democratic society. In a very complicated period of time for his country, Mohamed Boudiaf was sworn in as Head of the Presidential Council of Algeria. He displayed his courage and took full responsibility for the destiny of his country. Though Mohamed Boudiaf's tragic death prevented him from implementing all of his plans and dreams, the memory of the outstanding politician and individual that he was will remain with us.

I should also like to pay a tribute to the late Ambassador Francis Bugotu. For the last few years, Ambassador Bugotu had represented his country in the United Nations while at the same time serving as Ambassador to the United States and High Commissioner to Canada. He contributed greatly to the strengthening of Solomon Islands' independence and, as a Permanent

(Mr. Kryzhanivskiy, Ukraine)

Representative to the United Nations, to cooperation among States in their efforts to strengthen international peace and security. His memory will long endure.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Mr. Kingsley Layne, who will speak on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

Mr. LAYNE (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines): The Governments and peoples of the member countries comprising the Latin American and Caribbean Group extend their sincere condolences to the Government and people of Algeria on the untimely and tragic death of President Mohamed Boudiaf, which occurred on 29 June 1992.

We also wish to express heartfelt condolences to the Government and people of Solomon Islands as they mourn the loss of His Excellency Mr. Francis Bugotu, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

The assassin's bullet has silenced the voice of yet another great personality. President Boudiaf will always be remembered for his role in his country's struggle for independence. As an elder statesman, his wise counsels and sound judgements will forever be lost. His country and many others will greatly miss him and the leadership he gave, particularly at this time. The perpetrators of this dastardly act must be punished to the full extent of the law.

The news of the sudden passing of Ambassador Francis Bugotu on 9 July 1992 was received with shock and profound sadness.

As colleagues, we cannot help but remember the genial Francis with his winning smile and pleasant personality. It is somehow fitting that he died

(Mr. Layne, St. Vincent and the Grenadines)

playing the sport he loved, among many friends and colleagues from the entire South Pacific region, who were attending the twenty-third South Pacific Forum, which was being hosted by Solomon Islands.

Ambassador Bugotu's credentials as a representative of his country have won him the respect and admiration of people within his homeland, in the South Pacific region and generally, within the international community.

The Solomon Islands now mourn the loss of a distinguished son, an educator, a diplomat, a politician and a sportsman. The South Pacific region and the international community have lost a friend and a statesman. He will be sadly missed.

On behalf of the Latin American and Carribean Group of countries, the respective delegations of Algeria and Solomon Islands are kindly requested to convey expressions of our sympathy to the bereaved families of President Boudiaf and Ambassador Bugotu.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi of Austria, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States.

Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria): On behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, I have the sad duty to convey, through the delegation of Algeria, our sincere condolences to the Government and people of Algeria on the tragic and untimely death of His Excellency Mohamed Boudiaf, President of Algeria and President of its Supreme State Council. We are still shocked by the heinous assassination of the late President of Algeria. He will be remembered as an outstanding leader of his country, both during the liberation process and at this critical juncture of Algeria's history. He stood for courage and values. With his passing away, the people and Government of Algeria have lost a dedicated patriot and hero, and the international community has lost a statesman whose contributions to promoting peace and international understanding will be missed.

Let me also seize this occasion to express our grief and sorrow at the death of our esteemed and amiable colleague, the late Permanent Representative of the Solomon Islands, Mr. Francis Bugotu. Our respectful condolences go to his family, the United Nations Mission and the Government of the Solomon Islands.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of the United States, the host country.

Mr. HICKS (United States of America): As representative of the host country, it is with deep sadness that I speak to express the profound condolences of the Government and people of the United States of America, and the personal sympathy of Ambassador Perkins, to the people and Government of

(Mr. Hicks, United States)

Algeria upon the tragic death of the Supreme State Council President, Mohamed Boudiaf. He was a patriot who served his country both in its struggle for liberation and in its hour of greatest need.

We deeply regret the assassination of President Boudiaf and the death and injuries of others during the 29 June violence in the town of Annaba. We condemn this act of political violence and have called upon all parties in Algeria to avoid further bloodshed. Violence simply cannot be the solution to Algeria's problems.

As representative of the host country, it is also with deep sorrow that I recognize the untimely loss of our colleague, Ambassador Francis Bugotu, Permanent Representative of the Solomon Islands to the United Nations. Ambassador Bugotu was a dedicated representative of his country and a deft defender of its interests in this international chamber and other global forums. He served his country with dignity and dedication until his unexpected death during the South Pacific Heads of Government meeting on 9 July 1992.

On behalf of the Government and people of the United States of America, I wish to convey our deepest condolences and those of Ambassador Perkins to the family of Ambassador Bugotu and to the Government, people and delegation he served so ably.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on the representative of Algeria.

Mr. HADID (Algeria) (interpretation from French): Mr. President, I should like first, on behalf of my Government, to express our deep thanks to you, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, His Excellency Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, to all the spokespersons of the regional groups, as

(Mr. Hadid, Algeria)

well as to the representative of the host country, all of whom were kind enough to extend their sympathy and express their condolences to us. The tragic passing of President Mohamed Boudiaf, the victim of a cowardly assassination, is a heavy burden for the people of Algeria, who have been distresseed by this unspeakable crime against a figure who symbolized the Algerian national movement, a militant of unanimously recognized integrity, a man of dialogue and openness, who fought to his very last breath for the triumph of freedom, dignity and progress. The memory of President Boudiaf will remain forever alive in the minds of an entire people with whom he will always be identified.

The Algerian people and its leaders, determined to pursue the work of President Boudiaf, who committed Algeria to a resolute march towards stability, democracy and progress, find a precious source of comfort in the display of friendship and support which have come to us from throughout the world.

We have been very touched today at the renewal of this expression of feelings of sympathy and support, and I should like, on behalf of my Government, once again to express our gratitude to you, Mr. President, to the Secretary-General and to all the delegations that have joined, through the spokespersons of the regional groups or individually, in paying homage to President Boudiaf.

I shall not fail to transmit to the Government of Algeria as well as to the members of the family of President Boudiaf all the expressions of sympathy which have come to us in this Assembly.

I should also like to join the voice of my delegation with the condolences addressed to the Government and delegation of the Solomon Islands

(Mr. Hadid, Algeria)

upon the occasion of the passing away of Ambassador Bugotu. He will be sadly missed by his many friends in the United Nations, where he was esteemed by us all.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): May I repeat my condolences to the Algerian Government and people.

I now call on Mr. Bata'anisia of the Solomon Islands.

Mr. BATA'ANISIA (Solomon Islands): I have the honour to say a few words of thanks to everyone on the special occasion when we pay tribute to our dear colleague, His Excellency Francis Bugotu, the Solomon Islands Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, who passed away on 9 July 1992, while attending the Heads of the South Pacific Forum meeting held in Honiara, Solomon Islands. On behalf of the Government and people of the Solomon Islands and of the family of the late Mr. Francis Bugotu, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. President, the Secretary-General, the spokesmen of the regional groups and members of the respective Governments, for the messages of sympathy and condolences that we have received. Your valuable support and words of encouragement have been valued very much by our Government and people.

(Mr. Bata'anisia, Solomon Islands)

Solomon Islands has lost a very valuable man, a man who really served his country and his people in the South Pacific region and in the world body today. Nevertheless, may I assure you all that Solomon Islands will continue to attach great importance to this world body, and my Government is now in the process of identifying a suitable replacement for the late Mr. Francis Bugotu here at the United Nations.

Before concluding, I should like, on behalf of the Government and people of Solomon Islands, to pay tribute to the late President of Algeria following the tragic news of his death. I wish also to convey my Government's sincere condolences to the Algerian Mission to the United Nations. To all of our colleagues here at the United Nations, I will surely pass on your messages of sympathy to my Government and people and to the family of the late Mr. Francis Bugotu.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I thank the representative of Solomon Islands for his kind words, and may I repeat my condolences.

The following representatives have requested to speak on a point of order: the United States, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Austria, Australia, Slovenia, Croatia and Yugoslavia. I now call on the representative of the United States of America.

Mr. HICKS (United States of America): In a letter dated 5 May 1992 from the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, addressed to the President of the Security Council, the United States stated that serious questions had arisen regarding whether Serbia-Montenegro was the continuation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. We

(Mr. Hicks, United States)

stated further that until such time as these questions were resolved, the participation of the representatives of Serbia-Montenegro in the activities of the Security Council or the General Assembly should be viewed as without prejudice to the disposition of these questions.

Since our communication of 5 May, the Security Council, in resolution 757 (1992) of 30 May, noted that

> "the claim by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to continue automatically the membership of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations has not been generally accepted" (Security Council resolution 757 (1992), tenth preambular paragraph).

We strongly believe that the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia no longer exists, that Serbia-Montenegro is not the continuation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and that therefore Serbia-Montenegro is not entitled to assume the seat of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

As in other membership questions, we believe this issue needs to be settled by actions of the General Assembly upon recommendations of the Security Council. We believe such actions should be taken as soon as possible. Until that time, however, the participation of Serbia-Montenegro in the activities of the United Nations should continue to be viewed as without prejudice to this question.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of the United Kingdom.

Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom): I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Community and its member States. The European Community and its member States have recalled on numerous occasions that they have not accepted the automatic continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international organizations, including the United Nations. They reiterated this position in their declaration of 20 July, in which they noted that the new federation formed by Serbia and Montenegro cannot be accepted as the sole successor to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Questions relating to Yugoslavia's membership remain under consideration in international organizations, including the United Nations. The presence of representatives of Serbia and Montenegro at United Nations meetings is accordingly without prejudice to the position of the European Community and its Member States and to further action they may take to oppose the participation of Yugoslavia in the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Iceland.

Mr. SIGURDSSON (Iceland): I have asked to speak in order to address an important point of procedure on behalf of the Nordic countries - Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland. The Nordic countries wish to associate themselves with the statement just made by the representative of the United Kingdom, speaking on behalf of the member States of the European Community, on the same point of procedure.

In the view of the Nordic Governments, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, a new entity made up of only two former Yugoslav Republics, is not to be automatically regarded as the successor State of Federal Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia. The issue should be solved through appropriate admission procedures in the relevant internationl institutions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Austria.

Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria): In a statement we circulated as a document of the General Assembly and the Security Council dated 5 May 1992 and on many other occasions since then, the position of the Austrian Government has been clearly defined: There is no legal basis for an automatic continuation of the legal existence of the former, now defunct, Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by the new federation of Serbia and Montenegro, which therefore cannot be considered to continue the Yugoslav Membership in the United Nations.

For an eventual international recognition of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the criteria contained in the guidelines on the recognition of new States adopted by the Council of the European Community on 16 December 1991 should be applied. In this respect, Austria draws special attention to the requirements for the protection of human rights and the rights of ethnic groups.

The presence of representatives of Serbia and Montenegro at United Nations meetings has to be viewed as without prejudice to the disposition of this question. However, we are firmly convinced that this issue should be settled on an urgent basis.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Australia.

Ms. BIRD (Australia): My delegation wishes to place on record that Australia has not accepted the claim of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to be the continuing State of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Australia therefore reserves its position on the status of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and on issues dealing with its representation in international organizations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Slovenia.

Mr. KERSTEIN (Slovenia): The delegation of Slovenia would like to associate itself with the views just expressed by the representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Austria and Australia concerning the status and participation of Yugoslavia in the work of international organizations, including the United Nations.

(Mr. Kerstein, Slovenia)

We should like to reiterate the position expressed on several occasions by the Government of Slovenia that the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has ceased to exist, and that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia cannot be an automatic successor to the seat of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the international bodies, including the United Nations.

Therefore, the participation of the delegation of Yugoslavia at this meeting, as well as other meetings of the United Nations, does in no way prejudice the final solution of this problem.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Croatia.

Mr. NOBILO (Croatia): The Republic of Croatia also supports the growing number of Member States that are challenging the membership of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the United Nations, which is now claimed by the new, internationally unrecognized federation formed between Serbia and Montenegro. Atrocities committed by Serbia and Montenegro against the civilians of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the "ethnic cleansing" are a clear violation of the United Nations Charter and of international law. This justifies seeking an urgent consensus in the Security Council and the General Assembly on this issue.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of Yugoslavia.

Mr. DJOKIĆ (Yugoslavia): The delegation of Yugoslavia has asked for the floor, regrettably, in connection with the statements just delivered by certain representatives regarding the continuity and membership of Yugoslavia in the United Nations. I do not wish to reply to the allegations that have just been expressed by the representative of Croatia, as I feel that the

(Mr. Djokić, Yugoslavia)

rostrum of the General Assembly should not be used for recrimination and confrontation.

Consequently, permit me, Mr. President, to draw the attention of the members of the General Assembly to the following. On 27 April 1992, the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia delivered an official note to the Secretary-General of the United Nations informing him that the Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, at its session held on 27 April 1992, promulgated the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Under the Constitution, strictly respecting the continuity of the international personality of Yugoslavia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall continue to fulfil all the rights conferred to and obligations assumed by the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international relations, including its membership in all international organizations and participation in international treaties ratified or acceded to by Yugoslavia.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as a Founding Member of the United Nations, acknowledges its full commitment to the world Organization, the United Nations Charter, and the Conference on Security and Cooperation (CSC) in Europe as its founding participating State and to all CSC documents, in particular the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia does not claim to be the sole successor of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, but does strongly believe that the continuity of Yugoslavia as a State and its legal personality are in accordance with established practice in international relations in all such situations as well as with standard international behavior in similar circumstances, particularly in the United Nations.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is not a new State, but is rather the

(Mr. Djokić, Yugoslavia)

restructuring and continuation of the earlier Yugoslavia, this time within a reduced Territory. Therefore, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall continue to pursue Yugoslavia's foreign policy of the broadest possible equitable cooperation with all international factors.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to inform representatives that all the observations thus made will appear in the verbatim records of this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 114 (continued)

SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE EXPENSES OF THE UNITED NATIONS (ARTICLE 19 OF THE CHARTER) (A/46/868/ADD.2)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to draw the Assembly's attention to document A/46/868/Add.2, which contains a letter addressed to me by the Secretary-General informing me that, since the issuance of his communications dated 4 February and 13 April 1992, Nicaragua has made the necessary payments to reduce its arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of this information?

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 3 (continued)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

(a) REQUEST FOR THE REOPENING OF AGENDA ITEM 116 SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (A/46/952)

(b) NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL REQUESTING REOPENING OF THE CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 120 (A/46/934 AND ADD.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We turn now to the letter from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America

(The President)

addressed to the Secretary-General (A/46/952) by which the United States of America, and on behalf of Australia, Austria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Japan, the Philippines, the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, requests that agenda item 116, "United Nations common system", be reopened as soon as possible during the forty-sixth session of the Assembly in order to enable the Assembly to consider the impact on the United Nations common system of the decision of the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union, at its last session, regarding the payment of special post allowances.

In light of this request, may I take it that the Assembly has no objection to reopening consideration of agenda item 116?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Members will recall that, at its third plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the Assembly allocated this item to the Fifth Committee.

May I take it that the Assembly again wishes to allocate this item to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Next, we turn to the request contained in the note by the Secretary-General circulated in document A/46/934. In connection with this request, a report by the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission has been issued as document A/46/934/Add.1.

(The President)

In his note, the Secretary-General informs the General Assembly that in his report to the Security Council (S/23671 and Add.1) he recommended, inter alia, that the mandate, strength and composition of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) be enlarged to include an Office of the Special Representative for Angola to coordinate all United Nations activities related to the Angolan peace process, and an Electoral Division for the purpose of observing and verifying the Angolan electoral process until its completion.

He further informs the Assembly that the Security Council, by its resolution 747 (1992) of 24 March 1992, inter alia, approved his report and decided to enlarge the mandate of UNAVEM II for the remainder of its existing mandate period.

In order to enable the Assembly to consider the financing proposals of the Secretary-General that would permit UNAVEM II to undertake these added responsibilities, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 120, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission".

May I take it that the General Assembly wishes to reopen consideration of agenda item 120?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): At its 3rd plenary meeting, the Assembly allocated agenda item 120 to the Fifth Committee. May I take it that the Assembly again wishes to allocate agenda item 120 to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Chairman of the Fifth Committee will be informed of the decisions just taken.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to inform members that the next plenary meeting of the Assembly will be held on Friday, 31 July, at 10 a.m., to consider the admission of the Republic of Georgia to membership of the United Nations, and the reports of the Fifth Committee on agenda items 116 and 120.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

PROVISIONAL

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3 August 1992

ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 88th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 31 July 1992, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. SHIHABI (Saudi Arabia)

- Admission of new Members to the United Nations [20]

  (a) Application for admission

  (b) Letter from the President of the Security Council

  (c) Draft resolution

- United Nations common system: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) [116]

- Financing of the United Nations Angola verification mission: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) [120]

This record contains the original text of speeches delivered in English and interpretations of speeches in the other languages. The final text will be printed in the Official Records of the General Assembly.

Corrections should be submitted to original speeches only. They should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, within one week, to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Office of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 20 (continued)

ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

(a) APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION (A/46/938)

(b) LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL (A/46/942)

(c) DRAFT RESOLUTION (A/46/L.75)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I invite the General Assembly to consider the positive recommendation by the Security Council on the application for admission to membership in the United Nations of the Republic of Georgia.

The Assembly is considering its application for admission forthwith in order to give the State recommended by the Security Council for membership in our Organization the opportunity, if the General Assembly acts favourably on its request, to participate as soon as possible in the work of the United Nations.

If there is no objection, we shall proceed accordingly.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Security Council has recommended the admission of the Republic of Georgia in document A/46/942.

The draft resolution concerning the admission of this new Member is contained in document A/46/L.75. In addition to the countries listed in document A/46/L.75, the following countries have become sponsors: Afghanistan, Angola, the Bahamas, Congo, Mali, Oman, Panama, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia and Sri Lanka.

We shall now consider draft resolution A/46/L.75 on the admission of the Republic of Georgia to membership in the United Nations.

(The President)

May I take it that the General Assembly accepts the recommendation of the Security Council and adopts draft resolution A/46/L.75 by acclamation?

Draft resolution A/46/L.75 was adopted (resolution 46/241).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I therefore declare the Republic of Georgia admitted to membership in the United Nations.

I request the Chief of Protocol to escort the delegation of the Republic of Georgia to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

The delegation of the Republic of Georgia was escorted to its place in the General Assembly Hall.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): It is my pleasure on this historic occasion to welcome, on behalf of the General Assembly, the Republic of Georgia as a full Member of the United Nations. I am confident that its membership will enrich the United Nations and enhance the universality of the world Organization.

I congratulate the Republic of Georgia and I congratulate the United Nations on the admission of its 179th Member State. We look forward to Georgia's constructive contribution to the work of the United Nations, both in its own interest and in the interest of mankind as a whole.

I wish the Government and people of Georgia peace, prosperity, happiness and every success for the future. I wish to assure Georgia of the full support of the United Nations as it takes its rightful place in the international community as a free, independent, sovereign and peace-loving State.

I call on the representative of Madagascar, Ambassador Rakotondramboa, who will speak on behalf of the Group of African States.

Mr. RAKOTONDRAMBOA (Madagascar) (interpretation from French): On behalf of the Group of African States, over which I have the honour to preside during this month of July, I welcome the Republic of Georgia into the great family of the United Nations. To the Government and people of this new Member State I wish to convey sincere, heartfelt congratulations as well as our wishes for prosperity and happiness.

The admission of a country to membership in the United Nations is always a great and solemn occasion. The political will of States to join the Organization reflects the positive assessment of its activities by people throughout the world, a judgement which is borne out by the fact that no Member, despite the vicissitudes of international life, has so far asked to leave the Organization. All this attests to the universal trust placed in our Organization.

I am sure that, given its prestigious historical past and the dynamism of its people, the Republic of Georgia will make a valuable contribution to the work of the Organization, which at the presest time needs the assistance and active participation of all Members to ensure a solid basis and an effective structure that will enable it to discharge its many delicate missions, particularly with respect to the maintenance of peace and to economic and social development.

I wish to assure the Republic of Georgia of the willingness of the African Group to cooperate with it pursuant to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on Mr. Renagi Lohia, of Papua New Guinea, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Asian States.

Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea): On behalf of the Group of Asian States, it gives me great pleasure to welcome the Republic of Georgia to membership in the United Nations, the family of the people of the world. Family is the basis of and anchor for peoples' social, economic, political, cultural and psychological security. Therefore, it is on the basis of family-hood that we all survive. However, in many parts of the world, especially in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America, we find that the extended family-hood has much to give to individual families and individual members of those families. Also, this United Nations family is a special family, a family that cuts across languages, cultures, Governments and ideologies.

Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to see our brothers and sisters and their Government, the Republic of Georgia, join this special extended family-hood, where Governments and their peoples can lean on one another for security in every possible way. Whether in assisting or in seeking assistance from the Government of the Republic of Georgia, the members of the Group of Asian States will maintain their traditional spirit of cooperation.

Once again, we extend sincere best wishes to the Government and people of the Republic of Georgia. We welcome them most warmly to this great Assembly.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call on Mr. Victor H. Batiouk, of Ukraine, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States.

Mr. BATIOUK (Ukraine): As current Chairman of the Group of Eastern European States, I have the great honour and privilege, on behalf of the countries of the Group, to express our best wishes to the Republic of Georgia on its admission to the United Nations. It is a matter of particular satisfaction to welcome to our ranks a new Member State that belongs to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Entry into our Organization of a new Member is an eloquent manifestation of the historic changes that have been taking place in our world in general, and in the CSCE region in particular, for some time now. The admission of Georgia to the United Nations and the presence among us today of its representatives once more testify to the beginning of a new era in which unprecedented prospects are being opened for the United Nations.

At this time of fundamental international change there are strong expectations that the United Nations will fulfil its goals with increasing efficiency, not least in the areas where this truly universal Organization has a unique mandate. Each and every new Member State shares with others to the full extent the responsibility to enhance and strengthen the role of the United Nations as a reliable guardian of international peace and security, as an instrument for economic and social development and cooperation, as a vehicle for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and as an arena for meeting global challenges, such as environmental degradation, human want and mass diseases. With wider, more active and concerted participation, the United Nations now has an opportunity to confront fundamental common challenges seriously and, indeed, to meet the demands and hopes entrusted to the United Nations by peoples all over the world.

(Mr. Batiouk, Ukraine)

The growth of the number of Member States during this session of the General Assembly brings us today closer than ever before to the realization of the great principle of universality of the United Nations. The sincere welcome extended to the new Member of the United Nations is in keeping with the expectations and hopes apparent in our world.

Georgia is a proud Caucasian country with centuries-old culture and rich traditions. However, its independent statehood was reborn in skirmishes and turmoil, which reminded us all of the responsibilities of leaders entrusted by their people with the noble task of ensuring democratic rights and freedoms to all peoples, to all citizens without any exception whatsoever.

(Mr. Batiouk, Ukraine)

All the countries on whose behalf I am honoured to speak today sponsored the resolution adopted by acclamation a few minutes ago by the General Assembly. Thus, they gave expression to our conviction that the Republic of Georgia, the newest State Member of the United Nations, will conscientiously make its contribution to the implementation of the purposes and principles of the Organization as they are enshrined in its Charter. We wish to the Republic of Georgia, its peoples and its representatives to the United Nations much success in our common striving to ensure the survival of civilization, the triumph of justice and the securing of prosperity for living and coming generations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call now on the representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, His Excellency Mr. Kingsley C. Layne, who will speak on behalf of the group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

Mr. LAYNE (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines): On behalf of the member countries comprising the Latin American and Caribbean Group, I have the honour to congratulate the Republic of Georgia on its admission to the United Nations and to warmly welcome it to the world body as a free, independent, sovereign, and peace-loving State.

The presence of the representative of Georgia here today and the enhanced membership of our Organization occasioned by the admittance of newly independent States reinforces our belief in and commitment to the principle of universality of representation within the United Nations. We take note with satisfaction of the Republic's determination to uphold and fulfil the ideals and principles of the United Nations Charter, and we are confident that, with its rich cultural heritage, Georgia will contribute significantly to the work of the Organization.

(Mr. Layne, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)

In the past few years, we have seen remarkable changes on the international scene. The parameters of international relations have been redefined, but the problems and challenges of development remain acute. In Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, the world witnessed the peaceful rejection of authoritarianism and the embrace in its place of democracy, freedom, and liberty. For the Republic of Georgia, the struggle for independence was eventually won after 70 years of domination by the Soviet Union, and that country now stands ready to take its rightful place in community of sovereign and democratic nations.

On this auspicious occasion, the Latin American and Caribbean Group wishes the Republic of Georgia and its delegation to the General Assembly every success as they prepare to play their part in assisting to solve the global issues of today. They can be assured of our support and sincere desire to cooperate closely with them at the United Nations and in all other international organizations in our common efforts to ensure peace, justice, and prosperity for all the peoples of the world.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call next on Mr. Thomas Hajnoczi, representative of Austria, who will speak on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States.

Mr. HAJNOCZI (Austria): On behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, I have the honour to extend the warmest welcome to the Republic of Georgia, which has just joined us as the latest member of the United Nations family. With the admission of the Republic of Georgia, all the republics of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have now become Members of this Organization.

(Mr. Hajnoczi, Austria)

Georgia is the seventeenth new Member to join the United Nations in less than 12 months. We welcome this as a further step towards a truly universal Organization embracing all those willing to adhere to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, which include the principles relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes and the non-use of force.

The tremendous historic changes in our world, from which several new States - among them, the one joining us today and others recently admitted to this Organization - have emerged, have created new opportunities, but also new challenges for the international community and the United Nations. We look forward to the active participation of Georgia, one of the great civilizations in Europe, in our joint endeavours to meet these challenges in the years to come. In bidding it welcome, we assure our full cooperation to the latest Member of the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the representative of the host country.

Mr. HICKS (United States of America): Ambassador Perkins regrets that he is unable to be here this morning on this historic occasion. I will speak on his behalf.

Today, the United Nations admits one of the newest republics in the world. The past 12 months have seen the admission of no fewer than 16 States to United Nations membership. Their membership brings us ever closer to the important goal of a universal Organization through which all States able and willing to carry out the obligations of the Charter may participate in and enrich the community of nations through membership in the United Nations.

On behalf of the host country, I welcome with great pleasure the representative of the newly independent State of Georgia. His presence here today is a demonstration of the appeal of freedom. We look forward to

(Mr. Hicks, United States)

Georgia's contribution to the work of the international community. We hope to cooperate closely with Georgia's representative in the General Assembly and throughout the United Nations.

We especially note that the Republic of Georgia has made a solemn commitment to uphold the purposes and principles of the Charter. These include the principles relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes and non-use of force. We look forward to Georgia's abiding by those commitments. This applies especially, in the view of my Government, to the tragic conflict in South Ossetia. We urge continued and full respect for these principles and all other relevant principles of the Charter and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. In this regard, we are pleased to note that efforts are underway to implement a cease-fire agreement in South Ossetia and to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict. We believe that negotiations, not violence, are to be used by Members of this Organization to settle their differences.

The United States of America takes pride in having co-sponsored the application of the Republic of Georgia. We welcome Georgia's membership in the United Nations.

Mr. CHIKVAIDZE (Georgia) (spoke in Georgian; English text furnished by the delegation): One year ago the Republic of Georgia became an independent State again. If that was its birthday, then today is the christening of Georgia, as it enters the family of nations. I felt it appropriate on this proud day for my nation that the first few words should be pronounced in the ancient and unique Georgian language, the first written monument of which dates back to the fourth century A.D.

(spoke in English)

It is a distinct honour and a particular privilege to come forth before you today as the first-ever representative of the independent Republic of Georgia. It was with immeasurable joy and a feeling of great responsibility that my people and my Government learnt of the Security Council's decision to recommend to the General Assembly that the Republic of Georgia should be accepted into the community of nations.

Most countries get just one chance at civilized development; very seldom do they get a second chance after having failed the first time.

In the 1920s, as a result of armed external aggression, Georgia lost its first chance, and practically no one came to its aid. In retrospect, this is almost understandable: back then there was no such concept as that of world community, and the first international organizations were groping around in search of their role in the international system.

Today, at the close of the century, Georgia has been given a very rare second chance at democratic development. But the efforts of Georgia and the other newly independent nations will ultimately fail if the rest of the world, already blessed with the benefits of democracy, does not lend a helping hand.

We sincerely thank all those countries and organizations that have, over the past few months, contributed much-needed humanitarian assistance to my

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

country. But I'm afraid it's just a drop in the ocean and a stopgap measure at best.

I am talking about the overriding importance of a new kind of cooperation, one that would be dedicated to the creation of a strong and stable economic infrastructure, which in itself would go a long way towards ensuring the irreversibility of democratic changes.

We are not asking for someone to do our work for us, mind you. We are fully aware that success in building democracy in our country depends first and foremost on the Georgian nation itself.

We do not have much of an inheritance to boast of in either the economic or the social sphere. But what we do have is determination to become a stable, prosperous and democratic society that will be a significant factor for world peace.

What can Georgia, a country with centuries-old history and traditions, a country which embraced Christianity at the dawn of the fourth century, offer the world in this regard?

First of all, the possibility of turning Georgia's geopolitical situation into an important positive factor in world affairs. This aspect acquires even more significance because Georgia bridges not only East and West but also North and South, which is becoming the prevalent dichotomy in today's international relations. This is a new political reality which the international community should not overlook.

The official course, set forth before the world by Georgia's current leaders, is a definite asset among our political resources. Its main points are the following:

The Republic of Georgia will be guided by the principles of the Charter

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

of the United Nations and the obligations with respect to the development of democratic institutions and the defence of human rights contained in the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe.

The Republic of Georgia, wishing to contribute to international stability, will become a party to international agreements on disarmament.

The Republic of Georgia does not regard the use or threat of force to be a legitimate tool of policy, and it will, in the event of any regional or other conflict, strive to resolve it exclusively by means of negotiation.

The Republic of Georgia will defend the rights of the national minorities living in its territory, on the basis of agreements within the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) process. This problem is one of the objects of the tireless efforts of the United Nations. Without question, the rights of national minorities should be upheld and defended, but this cannot and must not be done at the expense of the indigenous population, something that is today, unfortunately, fast becoming a distinct tendency.

Responsibility for preserving peace and stability in any region of the world rests equally with all, regardless of whether they possess minority or indigenous status. It is gratifying to know that this problem finds a favourable response within the United Nations. As His Excellency Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali pointed out in his remarks of 1 July,

> "If every ethnic, religious or linguistic group claimed statehood, there would be no limit to fragmentation, and peace, security and economic well-being for all would become ever more difficult to achieve."

These words could not be more timely, since the demands of national minorities and ethnic groups are becoming a dangerous weapon in the hands of the destructive forces of biological nationalism.

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

Most of you have heard about the recent bloody conflict forced by the former system on the Georgians and the Ossetians, a national minority living in Georgian territory. For more than two weeks now a fragile peace has reigned in that area for the first time in three years. There is no more bloodshed, and life is slowly taking on a semblance of normality.

Even more important, the formula we have managed to work out for the settlement could also serve to resolve ethnic and national conflicts in the future. In his address to the people of Georgia on 17 July 1992, Eduard Shevardnadze, Chairman of the State Council of the Republic of Georgia, was hopeful when he said:

> "If the resolution of this conflict goes according to plan, ... it will become a significant contribution of Georgia, together with Russia, to the international practice of resolving ethnic conflicts."

We anticipate that this model will also serve as an appropriate initial contribution upon our entry into the United Nations.

The Republic of Georgia recognizes the inviolability of frontiers, which can be changed only by peaceful means and on the basis of the unanimous consent of the parties involved. In its entire history, which spans over two millennia, Georgia has never laid claim to the lands of other nations, and it has no plans for doing so in the future. We reconfirmed this at the CSCE summit at Helsinki. Simply put, there are no non-Georgian lands in Georgia. Conversely, we will resolutely oppose the aspirations of anyone to any part of Georgian territory.

With the aim of applying these principles to the demands of a new world, first at the Black Sea Conference at Istanbul and then once again at the CSCE summit at Helsinki, we underscored the necessity for modernizing the existing

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

mechanisms for political management and the need for creating new ones.

This basic idea implies putting greater emphasis on the regional cooperation component, which could lead to the creation of such new institutions as Transcaucasian, Black Sea-basin or Central Asian mechanisms.

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

A major new element of renewal would be the introduction into the European process of the concept of the shared responsibility of national minorities for maintaining peace and stability in their countries and regions, and the creation of appropriate institutions for that purpose.

Closely related to this is the problem of conventional-arms proliferation, especially into the hands of militant nationalistic forces.

Our intentions of being active and effective participants in world affairs are confirmed by our actions so far: We support European security through regional systems in accordance with the Helsinki process, we have signed the Istanbul declaration on the economic cooperation of the Black Sea-basin countries, and we have already proposed enhancing this economic cooperation with political and security aspects.

The United Nations, an organization conceived by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt more than 50 years ago, faces new tasks today, among them that of supporting newly independent nations as they embark on the difficult and at times contradictory road towards democracy and protecting them from aggression.

We believe that as a result of Georgia's membership in the United Nations, the possibility of direct aggression against us has greatly diminished. There exists, however, another kind of aggression, one from the inside, directed against nascent democratic institutions and vital economic reforms. This type of aggression is just as dangerous to world peace and stability as the external variety.

As a universal international body, the United Nations is fully justified in taking a stand equally forcefully against all types of aggression, whether perpetrated by an outside force or inspired from within.

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

Georgia's joining the United Nations as its one hundred seventy-ninth Member is the pinnacle of international recognition for our country. This figure, though it has no special significance, indicates that Georgia was late in joining the family of nations. But having done so, we regard this as a great honour, which also brings with it great responsibility, which we are fully aware of and eager to assume.

And perhaps the day will come when the world community can find a role of its own for tiny Georgia and entrust it with a share of responsibility for an aspect of international life, much as it relies on a few small, unique countries to mediate conflicts between nations. Ideally, Georgia too could become such a country.

Maybe my love for my country and my concern for its future have prompted me to speak too emotionally and view too idealistically Georgia's possible future role in the world, but one cannot be blamed for hoping.

We are a warm and open nation. Indeed, the name of our capital city in Georgian means "a warm place". Those of you who have never been in my home town should take my word for it; it is a very warm and hospitable place.

I should like to thank sincerely all those who supported Georgia's desire to become a Member of the United Nations and who have from the outset made it feel like a full-fledged Member of this world body.

I am very grateful for the warm greetings expressed today by the Chairmen of the regional groups and the representative of the host country.

On this day, memorable for my country and for me personally, I cannot help remembering the words of the great Georgian Renaissance poet of the twelfth century, Shota Rustaveli, who in his immortal work, "The Knight in Panther's Skin", wrote more than 800 years ago: "Good hath defeated evil, for the essence of good is eternal".

(Mr. Chikvaidze, Georgia)

May these words always resonate within the walls of this Organization.

And in conclusion, I hope I may take the liberty of repeating these words, this time in their original language:

(spoke in Georgian)

"Good hath defeated evil, for the essence of good is eternal".

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I should like to announce that the flag of the Republic of Georgia will be raised at a ceremony which will take place in front of the delegates' entrance immediately after the adjournment of this plenary meeting, which will come after the consideration of the next items on the agenda.

AGENDA ITEMS 116 AND 120 (continued)

UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (PART II) (A/46/808/Add.1)

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION: REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (PART II) (A/46/820/Add.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I now call on the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Mahmoud Barimani of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to introduce the reports of the Fifth Committee in one intervention.

Mr. BARIMANI (Islamic Republic of Iran), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour today to present to the General Assembly two reports of the Fifth Committee on two agenda items: documents A/46/808.Add.1 on agenda item 116, "United Nations common system", and A/46/820/Add.1 on agenda item 120, "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II)".

As is stated in paragraph 2 of each report, the Committee considered these two agenda items at its 66th and 67th meetings on 29 and 30 July 1992.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

At the 67th meeting, the Chairman of the Fifth Committee put before it the text of the two draft resolutions on the United Nations common system and on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission respectively.

The Committee adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.27 on the United Nations common system, as orally amended. I should like to draw your attention in particular to paragraphs 1, 10, 11 and 12 of the draft resolution. In paragraph 1, the General Assembly would strongly deplore the decision of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to make payment of the special post allowance to headquarters Professional staff in the circumstances described in paragraphs 33 to 35 of the report of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC).

In paragraph 10, the General Assembly would request ICSC, at its current session, to propose measures to enforce and enhance respect for and adherence by all organizations of the United Nations common system to the common system of salaries, allowances and conditions of service, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session together with its consideration on improving the responsiveness of the common system to the concerns and needs of the different organizations.

Furthermore, the General Assembly would call upon the Economic and Social Council, at its next session, to review and, where appropriate, strengthen the applicable sections of the relationship agreements between the United Nations and member organizations of the common system, in particular article 8 of the relationship agreement between the United Nations and ITU, in order to enhance comparability and further adherence to the goals and objectives of the common system.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

The final operative paragraph requests ITU to ensure that any consultative meeting convened pursuant to Administrative Council resolution R 1024 proceeds with the clear awareness that the United Nations General Assembly is the authority for determining conformity with the common system.

In paragraph 7 of the Report of the Fifth Committee, the Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution.

(Mr. Barimani, Rapporteur, Fifth Committee)

The Fifth Committee also adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.26, on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II). The draft resolution on UNAVEM II follows a format similar to that of previous resolutions on the financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations. I shall therefore highlight only certain aspects, which are germane to this specific situation.

In paragraph 3 the General Assembly would decide to appropriate to the special account an additional amount of $15 million gross, or $14 million net, inclusive of the amount of $2.9 million authorized with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 46/187 of 20 December 1991, for the operation of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission for the period from 1 January to 31 October 1992.

In paragraph 7 the General Assembly would decide that the vehicles transferred to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission from the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara should be at no cost to the Verification Mission.

The Committee agreed, on the proposal of the Chairman, that when the draft resolution was introduced to the General Assembly, the Rapporteur would propose that Georgia's name should be added to the list of Member States whose assessments are mentioned in paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.

In paragraph 6 of its report (A/820/Add.1) the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of this draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General

(The President)

Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote. The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Fifth Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

Let me remind members that by paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

"When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee". (decision 34/401, para. 7)

Let me remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Fifth Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we shall proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Fifth Committee.

The Assembly will first consider part II of the report of the Fifth Committee (A/46/808/Add.1) on agenda item 116, entitled "United Nations common system". The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Fifth Committee in paragraph 7 of that report.

The draft resolution was adopted by the Fifth Committee without a vote.

(The President)

May I take it that the Assembly too wishes to adopt the draft resolution?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 46/191 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): We have thus concluded our consideration of agenda item 116.

The Assembly will now consider part II of the report of the Fifth Committee (A/46/820/Add.1) on agenda item 120, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission". The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended in paragraph 6 of that report of the Fifth Committee.

The Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee has made the proposal to add the name of Georgia to paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.

The Fifth Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft resolution, as orally revised by the Rapporteur?

The draft resolution, as orally revised by the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, was adopted (resolution 46/195 B).

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): I call now on the representative of Angola, who wishes to speak in explanation of vote.

Mr. VAN DUNEM (Angola): I should like to take this opportunity to renew the sincerest appreciation of the Government of the People's Republic of Angola to the international community, and particularly to the United Nations, for its contribution to the establishment of peace and national reconciliation in our country. Our thanks go also to the countries that have individually given us their generous support. We should like to assure everyone that the Angolan people will never forget this proof of friendship and cooperation.

(Mr. Van Dunem, Angola)

The resolution the General Assembly has just adopted by consensus will give us further support. It constitutes a step towards the attainment of the complex building of peace and national reconciliation and, as pointed out by the Secretary-General in his report,

> "only a relatively small additional effort is needed to help ensure that the Angolan operation is a success for Angola and for the United Nations. Moreover, it is not financial resources, per se, that are required, so much as innovative and rapid provision of practical assistance on a loan and in-kind basis." (S/24145, para. 42)

Despite some small incidents, we have achieved notable progress, which will enable us to organize elections in September under the supervision of the United Nations. The Government of the People's Republic of Angola is fully aware of its responsibility to undertake the peace process; our part in the process will be fully implemented.

Once again, we express our sincere thanks and reiterate our hope that the international community, and particularly the United Nations, will stand side by side with our people in building peace and national reconstruction.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Arabic): The Assembly has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of agenda item 120.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.